



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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EnviroFlash delivers Air Quality information to users' in boxes or phones

BATON ROUGE – May is Clean Air Month and the start of ozone season. This is the time of year when air quality is most important because of the increase possibility of ozone formation on hot, dry summer days. An easy way to keep informed about air quality is through EnviroFlash. EnviroFlash is an e-mail alert system that delivers air quality information straight to your inbox or phone. Once you subscribe and fill in basic information like e-mail address and ZIP code, you will receive daily alerts with the local Air Quality Index forecasts. You will also receive alerts when ozone or particle pollution is expected to be unhealthy.

To stay better informed about ozone and other air quality matters, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality encourages the general public sign up for the EnviroFlash system. These are the Web addresses to sign up statewide:

<http://Batonrougearea.enviroflash.info>
<http://neworleansarea.enviroflash.info>
<http://shreveportarea.enviroflash.info>
<http://alexandriaarea.enviroflash.info>
<http://lakecharlesarea.enviroflash.info>
<http://monroearea.enviroflash.info>
<http://thibodauxarea.enviroflash.info>
<http://lafayettearea.enviroflash.info>

“Hot weather increases the risk of elevated ozone levels,” said Peggy Hatch, DEQ Secretary. “Because higher ozone can have an impact on the public, we urge people to take advantage of the free EnviroFlash system. It’s a simple way to stay informed and take appropriate steps to protect your health.”

Ground level ozone forms when pollutants emitted by cars, industrial sources and other sources react chemically in the presence of sunlight. At ground level, ozone is a harmful air pollutant. During hot, sunny months, ozone becomes a greater concern. Hot, dry weather often means a higher chance of air pollution. EnviroFlash alerts can help people stay informed about air quality.

For more information on current air quality go to the DEQ Web site, www.deq.louisiana.gov and the interactive EPA Web site www.airnow.gov.